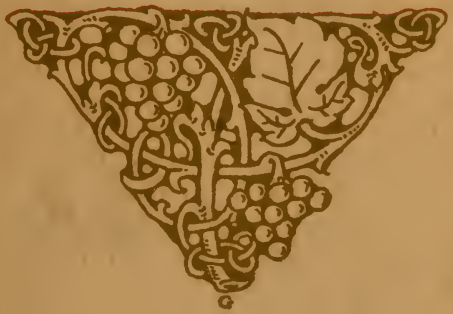
THERE IS NO UNBELIEF



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A POEM

By

Elizabeth York Case

NEW YORK
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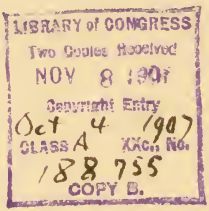

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New York

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF

A POEM

BY

ELIZABETH YORK CASE

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF

HERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
WHOEVER PLANTS A SEED BENEATH
THE SOD,
AND WAITS TO SEE
IT PUSH AWAY THE CLOD,
TRUSTS HE IN GOD.

II

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
Whoever says, when clouds are in
the sky,
Be patient, heart, light breaketh
by and by,
Trusts the Most High.

III

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
Whoever sees 'neath Winter's
fields of snow
The silent harvests of the future
grow,
God's power must know.

IV

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
Whoever lies down on his couch
to sleep,
Content to lock each sense in
slumber deep,
Knows God will keep.

V

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
Whoever says "tomorrow,"
"the unknown,"
"The future," trusts that Power
alone,
None dare disown.

VI

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
The heart that looks on where
dear eyelids close
And dares to live when life has
only woes,
God's comfort knows.

VII

THERE IS NO UNBELIEF;
For thus by day or night
unconsciously,
The heart lives by the faith the
lips deny,
God knoweth why,

EDITOR'S NOTE

So far as is known, no living author claims this poem for himself, excepting the real author, Mrs. Elizabeth York Case. It was first published in a daily paper, the Detroit Free Press, twenty-eight years ago, and made its way into collections of poems, with no name attached. William E. Barton first found it in an English collection, where it was marked "Unidentified" and so quoted it, until a literary woman in his own congregation introduced him to the authoress.

Mrs. Case is by religious faith a Friend, and has spent a good part of her life in work for the daily press. She was for some time on the staff of the Detroit Free Press.

On August 1, 1905, the Free Press printed the author's own statement, a part of which follows:

"This poem of mine, which for twenty-seven years has been accredited to Bulwer Lytton, Charles Kingsley and Mrs. Browning, not to mention a dozen others, was written by me in a moment of emotional turmoil compounded of resentment against dogmatic intolerance and enthusiasm for a larger, nobler belief. . . . .

I believe in everything that is good and beautiful and true; in God and man and nature, in love and life and joy."

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